



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Notice of Supplemental Funding Opportunity

AGENCY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of intent to award supplemental funding.

SUMMARY: This notice is to inform the public that the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is supporting an administrative supplement (in scope of the parent award) up to \$157,674,392 (total costs) available until the budget period end date (09/29/2023) to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Cooperative Agreement recipient, Mental Health Association of New York City, Inc. (DBA Vibrant Emotional Health). This grant was funded in FY 2021 under the Cooperative Agreement for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Disaster Distress Helpline Cooperative Agreement, Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), SM 21-005, with a project end date of September 2026. The supplemental funding will be used to maintain 988 operations and services, both at local levels and across all backup, chat, text, LGBTQ+ youth, Spanish language, and videophone based services. This funding will ensure continuation of all 988 services and supports.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Wright, LPC, Division Director, Crisis Operations, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, telephone 240-276-1615; email: james.wright@samhsa.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TITLE: FY 2021 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Cooperative Agreement SM-21-005

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 93.243

AUTHORITY: Section 520E-3 [42 USC 290bb-36c] of the Public Health Service Act, as amended

JUSTIFICATION: The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Cooperative Agreement (988 Lifeline) manages, enhances, and strengthens the 988 Lifeline network that routes individuals in the United States to a network of certified crisis centers that links to local emergency, mental health, and social services resources. The 988 Lifeline is a 24/7 confidential suicide and crisis hotline providing phone, chat, and text services for anyone in the United States experiencing a suicidal crisis or in emotional distress. This supplemental funding will ensure continuation of all active services, expand access for high-risk populations, improve access to services, and infrastructure support to ensure stability, safety, privacy, and connection of service. This is not a formal request for application. Assistance will only be provided to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Cooperative Agreement recipient, Mental Health Association of New York City, Inc. (DBA Vibrant Emotional Health). Since 2005, Vibrant Emotional Health has provided oversight and management of the Suicide Prevention Lifeline and its local call centers, backup centers, Spanish network, and chat/text functions with a network of over 200 centers in all fifty states. Vibrant Emotional Health has the infrastructure, experience, and national reach to work with the backup centers, language services, and chat/text organizations to address the increased contact volumes expected in 2023 and beyond. With the transition to 988 accomplished, greater services, such as expanding access to the local and national Lifeline backup centers, language services, system evaluation and data reporting, and access to specialized care for populations to be known at higher risk for suicide, are required to fully realize the potential impact to 988 contact service. Through this supplemental funding, SAMHSA and Vibrant can expand capacity to address

increased call, chat and text volume following 988 implementation, further develop connection and support for individuals at higher risk of suicide and strengthen the efficiency and customer experience of the network through unified technology.

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